

Message Text

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ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 EB-08 OES-07 NSF-01
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 /068 W
-----127854 020741Z /11
R 020722Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7602

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 TOKYO 07902

FOR AMB. JEAN WILKOWSKI

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TATT, JA
SUBJECT: JAPANESE TALKS ON PREPARATIONS FOR UNCSTD

REF: STATE 101785 AND PREVIOUS; TELECONS BLOOM/STROMAYER

1. SCICOUNS PAID CALL MAY 1 ON MASAKI YAGI, DIRECTOR, ECONOMIC AFFAIRS DIVISION, UN BUREAU, MOFA, TO LEARN MOFA THINKING ABOUT GOJ PLANS FOR UNCSTD. YAGI WAS JOINED BY TAKAAKI NAMBU, WHO WAS INTRODUCED AS ENGINEER FROM MINISTRY OF CONSTRUCTION ON ASSIGNMENT TO MOFA BECAUSE OF HIS TECHNICAL BACKGROUND, ENGLISH LANGUAGE CAPABILITY AND FAMILIARITY WITH TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND NORTH/SOUTH RELATIONS. NAMBU WAS IDENTIFIED AS OFFICER WHO WOULD BE HANDLING UNCSTD MATTERS IN FUTURE.

2. YAGI CONFIRMED PREVIOUS IMPRESSION THAT JAPANESE NATIONAL REPORT SUBMITTED TO GOVERNMENT BY COMMITTEE IS AN INTROSPECTIVE AND HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF JAPAN'S EMERGENCE AS TECHNOLOGICALLY SOPHISTICATED COUNTRY AND DOES NOT ADDRESS FUTURE RELATIONS WITH LDC'S AND NEED TO ESTABLISH HARMONIOUS METHODS FOR TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER. CONTRARY TO INFORMATION RECEIVED DAY BEFORE BY EMBOFF FROM
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DR. MUKAIBO (TO EFFECT THAT REPORT WAS NOW FINAL, COULD NOT BE CHANGED AND WOULD BE ON ITS WAY SOON TO UN), YAGI STATED THAT MOFA STILL CONSIDERED REPORT TO BE IN DRAFT AND THAT MOFA WOULD BE REWRITING IT TO MEET BROADER OBJECTIVES OF CONFERENCE. HE CLAIMED THAT ARRANGEMENT HAD BEEN MADE WITH UN TO DELAY SUBMITTAL OF REPORT UNTIL AUGUST. HE ALSO CONFIRMED THAT SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS DIV. OF

UN BUREAU HAD BEEN UNABLE TO CARRY OUT ITS RESPONSIBILITY FOR MANAGEMENT OF JAPANESE PARTICIPATION IN UNCSTD AND THAT FUNCTION WAS TO BE TRANSFERRED OFFICIALLY TO ECONOMIC AFFAIRS DIVISION ON MAY 15.
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3. SCICOUNS GAVE YAGI AND NAMBU SHORT BRIEFING ON PREVIOUS EVENTS WHICH HAD TRANSPIRED, INCLUDING HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH DR. MUKAIBO, DR. ROBERTS (SEE BELOW), AND STROMAYER'S CONVERSATION WITH OKAMURA AND WADA IN PARIS (STATE 101785). HE THEN EXTENDED INVITATION TO HOLD BILATERAL TALKS ALONG LINES PROPOSED BY DEPT. IN STATE 93086. YAGI EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN SUCH TALKS BUT POINTED OUT THAT SINCE HIS DIVISION WAS IN PROCESS OF TAKING OVER RESPONSIBILITY FOR UNCSTD AND WOULD NOT DO SO OFFICIALLY UNTIL MAY 15, TIME FRAME OF MAY 22-31 WOULD BE TOO EARLY FOR JAPANESE SIDE TO BE PREPARED. UPON CONSULTING HIS CALENDAR OF FUTURE EVENTS, HE PROPOSED IN RETURN THAT NAMBU STOP IN WASHINGTON ON JUNE 22-23, ON HIS WAY TO UNCTAD MEETING IN GENEVA STARTING JUNE 26. NAMBU WOULD MEET WITH AMB. WILKOWSKI AND/OR HER STAFF, AS WELL AS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF NGO GROUPS CONCERNED WITH UNCSTD. YAGI APPEARED UNCERTAIN ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF INVOLVING JAPANESE NGO'S IN SUCH A MEETING. HE WAS ASKED TO CONSIDER THIS ASPECT FURTHER AND ADVISE EMBASSY AT LATER TIME.

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4. SCICOUNS MET WITH DR. WALTER ORR ROBERTS ON APRIL 28. ROBERTS REPORTED THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED UNCSTD WITH DR. MUKAIBO AND HAD ARRANGED TO RETURN TO JAPAN IN JUNE TO PARTICIPATE IN SEMINAR ON UNCSTD TO BE SPONSORED BY SCIENCE COUNCIL OF JAPAN WITH SCJ PRESIDENT FUSHIMI CHAIRING. PURPOSE OF SEMINAR IS TO DEVELOP NON-GOVERNMENTAL INPUTS TO CONFERENCE; ROBERTS WILL GIVE REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES OF CSTD AND USG PREPARATIONS. ROBERTS WILL GIVE ASTRONOMY LECTURE AT U. OF TOKYO ON JUNE 26 AND PARTICIPATE IN SEMINAR ON JUNE 27. DR. MUKAIBO ALSO REPORTED ON HIS CONVERSATION WITH DR. ROBERTS, CONFIRMING ABOVE. MUKAIBO THEN EXPRESSED THANKS TO AMB. WILKOWSKI FOR OFFER OF SEMINAR IN HAWAII OR WASHINGTON, SAID THAT PROPOSED MAY PERIOD WAS TOO SOON FOR HIM, AND NOTED THAT DR. ROBERTS HAD OFFERED USE OF ASPEN INSTITUTE FACILITIES IN HAWAII FOR HOLDING BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS. MUKAIBO WOULD PREFER HAWAII AS VENUE. HE ALSO REPORTED THAT JAPANESE NATIONAL PAPER WAS OUT OF HIS HANDS AND HE WOULD BE WORKING THROUGH NGO CHANNELS TO INFLUENCE ACTUAL MODE OF JAPANESE PARTICIPATION IN UNCSTD, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ECOSOC RESOLUTION CALLING ON NGO'S TO PREPARE VIEWS ON FUTURE RELATIONS BETWEEN DC'S AND

LDC'S IN TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY IN THE UNCSTD FRAMEWORK.
HE HAS HEARD THAT AN INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON UNCSTD WILL
BE HELD PRIOR TO CONFERENCE BUT IS UNCERTAIN OF TIME OR
PLACE; A PREPARATORY MEETING FOR SEMINAR IS SAID TO BE
SCHEDULED IN AUSTRALIA.

5. COMMENT: SITUATION IS BECOMING MORE COMPLEX WITH
SO MANY ACTORS AND STAGES. WE CANNOT ATTACH MUCH
CREDENCE TO SHIFT IN UNCSTD RESPONSIBILITY WITHIN MOFA
BECAUSE IT APPEARS TO US THAT YAGI IS TOO HEAVILY
INVOLVED WITH OTHER UN AGENCY MATTERS (UNCTAD, ESCAP,

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ACTION SS-15

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-----127865 020741Z /11

R 020722Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7603

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FOR AMB JEAN WILKOWSKI

ETC.) TO SPEND MUCH TIME ON CONFERENCE AND NAMBU IS TOO
YOUNG AND INEXPERIENCED TO BE ABLE TO ACT EFFECTIVELY
IN BILATERAL OR MULTILATERAL DISCUSSIONS. WE SUGGEST
THAT NAMBU STOP IN WASHINGTON BE ENCOURAGED BUT NOT
LOOKED UPON AS OPPORTUNITY FOR HEAVILY INFLUENCING
JAPANESE. PERHAPS UNCSTD COORDINATOR CAN WORK WITH
DR. ROBERTS TO SET UP JOINT GOVERNMENT-NGO MEETING IN
HAWAII AROUND JULY; ALTERNATIVELY, ONE OF THE INTER-
NATIONAL SEMINARS ON UNCSTD APPARENTLY BEING PLANNED
COULD BE VENUE FOR BILATERAL TALKS, PROVIDED THAT BOTH
GOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS ARE IN ATTENDANCE,
FROM BOTH SIDES. SCICOUNS WILL BE IN WASHINGTON MAY 7-
17 AND WOULD LIKE TO INSURE THROUGH DIRECT DISCUSSIONS
THAT EMBASSY'S EFFORTS TO PROMOTE UNCSTD ARE IN SUPPORT
OF DEPT.'S INTERESTS. SHERMAN

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